**Unitarian Montessori School**

*Established 1985*

*Where Children Come First*

Daily Schedule

Toddler Program

It is important to maintain a fairly consistent schedule for the health and well-being of your child. Children in our program enjoy a predictable routine. The following schedule is used on a daily basis with changes occurring on special days such as holidays and in house program days such as Music, Yoga and Spanish.

**Early Risers 7-8:30am**

As the children arrive, they are greeted at the door. They hang up their coats and outer garments, exchanging their outdoor with their indoor shoes. Some children will arrive quietly and wish to begin their day slowly. Others our “morning” people might greet the day with robust energy and waste no time greeting a friend. Children are invited to have a relaxed breakfast, help set up the classroom or choose a work from the shelf.

**8:30am** School officially begins. The children are greeted by the head teachers.

**Morning Session Work Time 8:30-10:15am**

Children explore the prepared environment, receiving lessons and working independently. The children choose their work from the different area of the classroom. Individual work time is the most important time we spend together as group because it is during this time that the children are making individual work choices, working at their own pace, according to their unique interest and abilities.

**Circle Time 10:15am** At the signal, a bell is rung and the children gather for circle. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know each other, share some laughs, have some fun and at the same time learn grace and courtesy. The date and weather are charted and a new work or presentation is shown.

**10:30am**  The children have a light nutritious group snack.

**Playground Time** **10:45-11:30am** Coats, boots, scarves, gloves and hats are retrieved from the hallway and children ready themselves for outside playground time.

**Lunch Time 11:30-12:30**

Most of the children attending Unitarian Montessori School attend on a full day schedule. Morning half day toddlers are dismissed at 11:30am. The children wash their hands, get their lunch boxes and sit for a relaxing social lunch.

**Nap Time 12:30pm – 2:00pm**

After lunch the children clean up their area, get their mats and nap baskets for rest time.

**Afternoon Work Time 2-2:45pm**

As the children wake up they explore the prepared environment receiving lessons and working independently. A light snack is served.

A second circle is called. This is usually a favorite time for most children as songs are sung and books are read. The children then have playground time weather permitting.

**3:30pm** The school day ends and children are dismissed.

**Aftercare 3:30pm – 6:30pm**

Aftercare program begins at 3:30pm. Weather permitting the children play outside until 4:30pm. In case of inclement weather the Gathering Room is set up with Montessori based activities and work. The children have a snack at 4:30pm and enjoy circle time. After circle the children are free to choose work in the Gathering Room.